THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Saturday, the 8th March 1958.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Allowances to Headmasters of Local Board Schools.

* 55 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that different rates of dearness and house-rent allowances are paid to Headmasters of Secondary Schools by various local boards; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Finance) : (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information on the points.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I submit, Sir, that my original question was about the duty allowance of Headmasters and not this allowance?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, this question relates to dearness and house-rent allowances. So far as dearness allowance is concerned, the teachers must be getting it and the Government are subsidising it. There is no question of subsidising house-rent allowance. This depends upon the capacity of the local bodies concerned. Some local bodies must be giving this house-rent allowance, and it may be that certain other local bodies are not able to give this house-rent allowance.

Health Cess.

* 56 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to levy a health cess; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.